

Message Text

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CODEL DERWINSKI

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (DERWINSKI, EDWARD J)

SUBJECT: CODEL DERWINSKI

REF: A) SAN JOSE 5575, B) STATE 284587

1. EMBOFFS MET CODEL DERWINSKI ON ARRIVAL SAN JOSE MORNING DECEMBER 1, AND ASSISTED THROUGH CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION. CODEL WAS IMMEDIATELY BROUGHT TO EMBASSY FOR BRIEFING BY COUNTRY TEAM. FOLLOWING MEETING, CODEL LUNCHEDED WITH CHARGE, POL AND ECON COUNSELORS.

2. AFTERNOON PROGRAM BEGAN WITH VISIT TO FACILITIES OF LOCAL TELEPHONE COMPANY (ICE). CODEL WAS GIVEN TOUR OF INSTALLATION BY BILINGUAL CHIEF OF INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES SECTION. LEADERS OF TELECOMMUNICATION WORKERS FEDERATION (FENECEP), LOCAL AFFILIATE OF PTIT, ACCOMPANIED. AFTER VIEWING ICE, CODEL RETURNED TO ICE UNION (SITET) HEADQUARTERS WHERE A MEETING WAS HELD WITH FENECEP LEADERS. CODEL RECEIVED EXTENSIVE BRIEFING BY SITET SECRETARY GENERAL GUIDO NUNEZ ON DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED IN ORGANIZING ICE WORKERS. DURING VISIT, CODEL WAS SHOWN SITET COOPERATIVE AND BRIEFED ON ITS OPERATION.

3. CODEL PAID COURTESY CALL ON ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER FERNANDO VOLIO AND VICE MINISTER DEL CASTILLO EVENING DEC. 1. FOLLOWING CALL, CONGRESSMAN DERWINSKI ATTENDED PERFORMANCE AT NATIONAL THEATER AS GUEST OF CHARGE.

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4. MORNING DECEMBER 2, CODEL VISITED THE MAIN POST OFFICE WHERE THEY WERE GREETED BY ING. DANILO RODRIGUEZ, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS. CODEL TOURED THE INSTALLATION ACCOMPANIED BY HECTOR SANCHEZ, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE POST OFFICE, ORLANDO CUEVAS, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE TELEGRAPH DIVISION AND UNION OFFICIALS. BOTH MANAGEMENT AND UNION OFFICERS PARTICIPATED IN EXPLAINING THE VARIOUS OPERATIONS AND OFFICES VISITED TO CODEL. UPON THE TERMINATION OF THE TOUR A DISCUSSION WAS HELD AMONG THE CODEL, MANAGEMENT AND UNION OFFICERS WHICH PROVIDED CONGRESSMAN DERWINSKI, WITH AN EXCELLENT PICTURE OF LABOR MANAGEMENT RELATIONS AND EMPLOYMENT POLICY IN THE POST OFFICE.

5. CONGRESSMAN DERWINSKI HAD LUNCH AT HOME OF PAO WITH LEADING LOCAL NEWSPAPERMEN. AIDES KAZY AND FISHER LUNCHEDED WITH PTTI AFFILIATED UNIONISTS, PTTI REP LOUIS MOORE, THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND THE DIRECTORS GENERAL OF THE POST OFFICE AND TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

6. AFTERNOON DECEMBER 2 CODEL PAID COURTESY CALLS ON TELEPHONE COMPANY DIRECTOR, ALEX MURRAY, AND MINISTER OF GOVERNMENT EDGAR ARROYO, UNDER WHOSE MINISTRY THE POST OFFICE AND TELEGRAPHIC OFFICE LIE. THESE CALLS WERE FOLLOWED BY A VISIT TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WHERE CODEL MET WITH COSTA RICAN DEPUTIES WHO ARE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION DELEGATES. OTHER LEGISLATORS WERE ALSO PRESENT. CODEL RECEIVED WARM RECEPTION. CONGRESSMAN DERWINSKI TOLD THE DEPUTIES THAT IF AND WHEN THEY VISIT WASHINGTON HE WOULD BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO MEET WITH THEM, OR IF NOT AVAILABLE, HE WOULD ARRANGE VISITS FOR THEM WITH HIS COLLEAGUES. FOLLOWING MEETING, CODEL TOURED LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER.

7. CHARGE HELD RECEPTION FOR CODEL AT HIS RESIDENCE EVENING DECEMBER 2 WITH COSTA RICANS THEY HAD CONTACT WITH DURING THEIR VISIT. HIGHLIGHT OF EVENING WAS LONG, MUTUALLY INFORMATIVE, INFORMAL DISCUSSION BETWEEN CONGRESSMAN DERWINSKI AND LOCAL UNIONISTS.

8. CODEL DEPARTED MORNING DECEMBER 3 FOR GUATEMALA AS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SCHEDULED.

9. FROM ALL INDICATIONS VISIT CODEL DERWINSKI WAS HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL. CONGRESSMAN AND COMMITTEE STAFF MEMBERS REPEATEDLY EXPRESSED THEIR SATISFACTION WITH THE PROGRAM. THE PROGRAM ITSELF WAS QUITE SUBSTANTIVE AND GEARED PRIMARILY TOWARD THE CONGRESSMAN'S EXPRESSED INTEREST IN MEETING WITH LEADERS AND MEMBERS OF PTTI

AFFILIATED UNIONS.

10. BESIDES ACQUIRING TECHNICAL INFORMATION ON LOCAL
POST OFFICE AND COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS, THE CONGRESSMAN
RECEIVED WIDESPREAD EXPOSURE TO THE VIEWS AND PROBLEMS
OF LOCAL DEMOCRATIC UNIONISTS. CODEL VISIT
WITH LOCAL UNION LEADERS WAS MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL. THE
CONGRESSMAN RECEIVED A WARM, PUBLIC, RECEPTION FROM LOCAL
UNION LEADERS. THE RECOGNITION ACCORDED THE LOCAL
UNION MEN BY THE CONGRESSMAN ENHANCED THEIR IMAGE
BEFORE MANAGEMENT AND THE GOCR AND WAS A DISTINCT SHOT
IN THE ARM TO THEIR MORALE.
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